

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: August 25, 2015
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: Oxford City Hall
PRESENT: Mr. Steven Waits, Council President
Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member
Mr. Mike Henderson, Council President Pro Tempore
Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member
Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council Member

ABSENT: Mayor Leon Smith

The meeting was called to order by Council President Steven Waits and Shirley Henson, City Clerk of the City, served as the Clerk of the meeting.

Mike Sims of First Baptist Church of Oxford gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Waits stated we like to recognize students in our school system who excel in character and academics. Tonight we are recognizing Madison McCartney. Madison is a junior at Oxford High School. Her parents are Michael and Shay McCartney. She is a cheerleader and a member of the Key Club. Her favorite subject is History and her favorite teacher is Mr. Renfroe. Upon graduating from Oxford High, Madison plans to attend the University of Alabama and prepare to enter the medical field.

Madison McCartney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Waits thanked Madison and stated you can see her Friday night when Oxford plays Gadsden City. It should be a good game. The cheerleaders and band did a good job last week playing in the rain along with the football team.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the August 11, 2015 regular meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits called for any comments or questions; there being none, on roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Waits called for any old business; there was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 2015-13 – Ordinance to establish a Historic Preservation Commission in the City of Oxford.

Mr. Waits stated in order to take up this ordinance we will need a motion to suspend the rules for unanimous consent. There was no motion. Therefore this ordinance dies from a lack of motion. This will appear on the next meeting agenda in two weeks.

Resolution No. 2015-83 – Resolution where the City of Oxford wishes to engage the services of East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission to undertake FHWA mapping for the City and to utilize the computer mapping program in support of its comprehensive planning and mapping program with a local matching funds of \$7,200.00 and a total project cost of \$36,000.00 under Section 112.

Mr. Waits stated we heard from Mr. Robert Munroe of East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission and we appreciate you being here. They do a good job with our mapping. This is an 80/20 match.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-83. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mrs. Hubbard stated in the work session you talked about comprehensive maps would be included. Mrs. Hubbard asked Mr. Munroe if he could speak to that.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2015-84 – Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Munroe + Jenkins Architects for gutter repairs to City Hall.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-84. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits thanked Fred Denney for sharing with us what we are going to need to do to fix this issue.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2015-85 – Awarding the bid for Vehicle Parts Management and Supply Services for the City Garage.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-85. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Henderson stated I have some comments I would like to make. Nothing against Greg Skinner, he's been a business person in Oxford over the years. He has always been a faithful supporter of Oxford. The problem I have with this is it sort of un-levels the playing field a little bit. Basically we are giving most of the parts business to one person/one entity. Napa has no store in Oxford and that is fine but other parts stores in Oxford have purchased property, built buildings, hired employees, pay property tax and sales tax. This is taking business away from them to give to someone else. Again I am not faulting Greg for trying to make a dollar. Everyone is entitled to do that. My concern is this seems like we are mistreating some of the other businesses. The other thing I have a concern about is when the guy came and did the presentation I think he said there is only one other City in the State that is doing this. My concern is if it is such a great deal why is only one other City in the State doing it. I realize it is going to save us some money and might make us more efficient. I am not criticizing and am not really against this I am just concerned that it might set a precedent.

Mr. Spurlin stated I know we asked Bill Lawley, Garage Superintendent about a rough estimate of how much this would save the City and his response was \$250,000.00 in four months. Mr. Spurlin asked Mr. Lawley to tell us how you came to that conclusion.

Mr. Waits stated those savings did not include the efficiencies that you will gain at the Garage also as far as having to wait on parts.

Mr. Spurlin stated also you will not have to buy the parts in mass to get a cheaper rate. The City will not be in the part buying business anymore.

Mrs. Hubbard stated we do have employees that do have to leave the Garage to go get parts. Would those parts be brought to us? How does this work?

Mr. Waits stated Bill I don't mean to put you on the spot here but essentially you are looking at \$750,000.00 a year savings to the City, the efficiencies to your staff so you can be more productive with the manpower you have. Am I correct on that? I think that information helps us out in a lot of ways. For instance, the Dodge Chargers for our Police Department, the maintenance on those vehicles versus the Tahoes. We know that the Tahoes are a lot less expensive to maintain. This would give us visual data to layout the cost of those vehicles per se. There will be times when you will not have that part and can't get it immediately. So where will you go get those parts.

Mr. Waits called for any other questions or comments. Mr. Waits asked Ms. Henson to read the resolution.

Mr. Waits stated as the resolution stated there will be some contractual items to be worked out.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Nay" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Waits called for Council Comments. There were none.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Waits stated Mayor Smith is absent.

Mr. Waits stated we need to set a Public Hearing for September 8, 2015 to consider the following requests which were approved by the Oxford Planning Commission at their August 4, 2015 meeting:

- A.) Zoning request from Sandra Elston to zone the property located at 1517 County Line Road to Residential.
- B.) Re-zoning request from Landry Roberts to re-zone the property located at 1028 Hamric Drive West to Residential.

Visitors

Mr. Waits called for any comments or questions from anyone present.

Bruce Tucker of 1200 Meadowood Lane asked the Council about the repairs to the railroad crossing at Oxford Lumber.

Mr. Waits stated he was not aware of any problems. We can speak with Rusty Gann, City Engineer regarding this issue.

Mr. Waits asked Alton Craft, Finance Director if he was aware of a problem. Mr. Waits asked Police Chief Bill Partridge if he was aware of a problem.

Mr. Tucker stated it has been this way for some time and it is really hard on the cars. I slow down there a lot and cars are trying to go along there pretty quick. There is a hole there and some of the boards are popping up.

Mr. Waits asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss real or potential litigation and asked Ron Allen, City Attorney to certify this meeting meets the standard in relating to the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Waits stated we will adjourn from the Executive Session.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2015 for Labor Day.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Henderson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Shirley Henson, City Clerk

Steven Waits, Council President